

**Question for written answer E-003250/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Ban on lead

In order to implement the REACH Regulation, the European Commission called on ECHA to evaluate a restriction on the use of lead in ammunition for hunting and sport shooting and fishing gear used both in wetlands and dry areas.

There is an urgent need to raise the issue of the 'possession' of lead ammunition in wetlands, which in the ECHA proposal is even equated to 'use', with the foreseeable concomitant sanctions.

Hunters regularly move between wetlands and dry areas even if not hunting aquatic birds, for which reason declaring the mere possession of lead in wetlands illegal, irrespective of its actual use, would appear to be a wholly disproportionate measure.

In light of the above, we should like to ask the following questions:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to avoid undesired legal consequences arising from the possession of lead ammunition in wetlands?
2. Is the Commission aware of the fact that, in the absence of such measures, problems of interpretation of the law will certainly be created for those called upon to apply the law, that is to say law enforcement agencies and the judiciary?